

## Law Enforcement (FINAL)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # \_\_\_\_\_

APP # 700413

### ITEM 1. Proposed Project

The OHV program on the Los Padres National Forest (LPNF) is spread over four districts: Mt. Pinos, Santa Lucia, Santa Barbara, and Ojai Ranger Districts. Areas of emphasis on the Mt Pinos Ranger District are in Ballinger Canyon, Piru Creek Crossing, Grade Valley, and the OHV routes that interface with the Hungry Valley State Vehicle Recreation Area at Interstate 5 in the Tejon Pass OHV area. On the Santa Lucia Ranger District the emphasis will be patrol of the Garcia OHV Trail, Pozo/La Panza, Rockfront, Buckhorn Ridge, Figueroa Mtn. and unauthorized areas in the West Cuesta and Huasna areas. Patrol emphasis on the Santa Barbara Ranger District is the Buckhorn/Camuesa and Divide Peak OHV areas as well as East and West Camino Cielo Roads where the potential occurrence of encroachment is high. OHV routes emphasized on the Ojai Ranger District are the Potrero Seco, Cherry Canyon, Nordoff Ridge, and Ortega Trail OHV routes.

The OHV law enforcement program implements and seeks compliance from the public of state and federal laws and regulations related to OHV use on the forest including protection of natural resources, safety of the public, and compliance with laws such as noise limits, registration, wearing of safety gear, and not riding double. Frequency of patrols will enable the LPNF to have a visible presence on weekends and holidays (traditionally the high use times) in all OHV areas on the forest and enable intermittent coverage throughout the week at areas such as Piru Creek Crossing, Rockfront, Pozo/La Panza, and Ballinger Canyon.

Forest Protection Officers (FPO) will make contacts with OHV visitors and provide information concerning OHV routes and legal riding areas and information on the impacts of off-route riding to the environment. Route maps and handouts on safe riding practices are provided to the public by patrol personnel and at all Ranger Stations. FPO and Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) patrols will issue citations where necessary to achieve compliance with OHV laws and regulations. OHV regulatory, directional, and informational signs, fences and barriers will be inspected and repaired on a regular basis.

The Los Padres National Forest has had an extraordinary wildfire history based on drought, topography, unburned fuels, and the influence of the urban interface. As a southern California forest, the threat to adjacent communities and structures is high. OHV law enforcement staff continue to expend considerable time and resources to control unauthorized OHV intrusion into wildfire burn areas. The burn areas from wildfires during the past four years (2006 Day Fire 163,000 acres; 2007 Zaca Fire 240,000 acres; 2008 Gap Fire 9,500 acres; 2008 Tea Fire 2,000 acres, 2009 La Brea Fire 89,000 acres) as well as hundreds of miles of fire suppression dozer lines are located on or near designated OHV routes/concentrated use sites. These areas are subject to OHV encroachment and failure to control illegal access will lead to creation of multiple miles of unauthorized routes which will in turn be difficult and expensive to close and rehabilitate. While the majority of the accessible burn areas and dozer lines have been closed by forest orders and utilizing a combination of barrier systems such as width limiters, gates, and fencing there is an ongoing need to continue focused patrols in these areas to prevent unauthorized off route travel. The LPNF has already spent an estimated \$135,000 in fire supplemental funding to install gates, signs, and barriers. An additional \$50,000 has been spent in increased closure monitoring and patrol costs.

Funding request will provide for 316 days of funding across the forest- basically the equivalent of 1.25 full time Forest Protection Officers (FPOs)- to be spread among current FPO staff on the LPNF in support of the OHV recreation program.

### ITEM 2. Project Coverage

The entire project area lies within the boundary of the Los Padres National Forest (LPNF). This includes four of the forest's five ranger districts - Santa Barbara, Ojai, Santa Lucia, and Mount Pinos. The area with OHV opportunity includes portions of Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, and Kern counties. The LPNF has 565 miles of designated OHV routes providing a range of skill level difficulty including novice, intermediate, advance, and expert and provides for 4WD, ATV, RUV, motorcycle, and SUV use. The bulk of the green/red sticker opportunity is located on the Santa Lucia (SLRD) and Mount Pinos (MPRD) Ranger Districts.

The project area and patrol emphasis includes all associated developed recreation facilities (i.e. trailheads, staging areas,

campgrounds, picnic areas).

**ITEM 3. Describe the frequency of the patrols**

Requested funding will enable the LPNF to have a visible presence on weekends and holidays (traditionally the high use times) in all OHV areas on the forest and enable intermittent coverage throughout the week at higher use areas such as Piru Creek Crossing, Rockfront, Pozo/La Panza, and Ballinger Canyon.

During the winter months, riding is accommodating on the SLRD and SBRD. During the summer months, MPRD and ORD become pristine for riding, especially for southern California residents. OHV patrolling takes place approximately five days a week, depending on the weather of each district. With a new LEO on the SLRD, patrolling is taking place more often as two LEOS are used to patrol OHV trails on all four districts.

Additionally, FPO support will be provided at all (on average six annually) OHV related special use events (i.e. enduros, poker runs) to include compliance checks and route patrols.

**ITEM 4. Deployment of Personnel**

Funding request will provide for 316 days of FPO funding across the forest - basically the equivalent of 1.25 full time Forest Protection Officers - to be spread among current FPO staff (12) on the LPNF in support of the OHV recreation program. Match support will be provided by five Law Enforcement Officers (LEO) across the LPNF to provide support and patrol coverage in illegal riding areas and to protect resource damage.

Additional funding is requested to cover holidays and overtime for days when use is extremely high and during OHV special use events that occur throughout the forest.

## LE Certification

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### Law Enforcement - Page 1

1. Identify areas with high priority law enforcement needs because of public safety, cultural resources, and sensitive environmental habitats, including wilderness areas and areas of critical environmental concerns:

High priority areas on (1) Mt Pinos RD are Ballinger Canyon, and Piru Creek Crossing (high volume use and/or interface with the Hungry Valley SVRA); Nettle and Dome Springs in the Badlands Area (wilderness intrusion potential); Pine Mountain Club, and Frazier Park (community interface); (2) Santa Lucia RD are Garcia trail, Pozo/La Panza area, Rockfront/Buckhorn Ridge, and the West Cuesta area (potential off route use); (3) Santa Barbara RD are Buckhorn Rd (wilderness intrusion potential), Camuesa Rd, Divide Peak, East & West Camino Cielo Rd (potential off route use); and (4) Ojai RD are Potrero Seco, Cherry Canyon, Nordoff Ridge and Ortega Trail (potential off route use).

High priority across the Forest in general at wildfire rehabilitation interface sites (i.e. dozer lines) and to enforce seasonal closure orders.

2. Describe how the proposed Project relates to OHV Recreation and will sustain OHV Recreation, motorized off-highway access to non-motorized recreation, or OHV Opportunities associated with the Project Area:

The project relates to OHV recreation and will assist in sustaining motorized access/opportunities across the LPNF by providing a field presence to enforce appropriate laws and regulations ensuring public safety, and natural resource protection. Direction in the 2005 Land and Resource Management Plan, Appendix D Adaptive Mitigation for Recreation Uses provides for a four tier system of management actions to be taken when there are conflicts between uses and sensitive resources. Sensitive resources covered by this policy such as soil and watersheds, heritage resources, and sensitive species/habitat are found across the LPNF. Education, perimeter control and presence are the first three tiers of this recreation management policy. If these fail, the last tier is to limit, restrict, or prohibit use. Funding of LEOs and FPOs will assist in keeping OHV opportunities available to the public by heading off the need for the fourth tier due to lack of public education and officer presence in the field.

3. Describe the Applicant's formal or informal cooperation with other law enforcement agencies:

Informal cooperation with other law enforcement agencies is common across the forest and includes San Luis Obispo, Ventura, and Santa Barbara County Sheriff departments for those county areas which affect portions of the Mt Pinos and Santa Lucia Ranger Districts. This informal cooperation includes search and rescue operations, citation assists, patrols of remote OHV areas on the forest, assistance at OHV events, and other OHV recreation related contacts.

### Law Enforcement - Page 2

4. Does the Applicant recover a portion of the law enforcement costs directly associated with privately sponsored OHV events where sponsors have obtained a local permit? ☒ Yes ☐ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

Explain

On average, six OHV related special use permits are issued annually. Cost recovery regulations allow for a portion of the permit fees to be retained by the forest for permit administration/event monitoring purposes depending upon the complexity of the event. Short duration events may not qualify for fee retention but we do retain fees when applicable. Historical data available upon request.

5. The Applicant agrees to implement a public education program that includes information on safety programs available in the area and how to report OHV violations? ☒ Yes ☐ No  
(Please select Yes or No)
6. Describe the Applicant's OHV law enforcement training program including how the training program educates

personnel to address OHV safety and natural and cultural resource protection:

The LPNF has 2 levels of law enforcement positions. Forest Protection Officers (FPO), and Law Enforcement Officer (LEO). LEOs are required to complete land manager training for police officers at the Federal LE Training Center in Glenco, Georgia (87 days). FPO certification requires 32 hour training focusing on officer safety, public contacts, communicating laws and regs, citation writing, and court procedures. Additionally FPOs are required to complete 8 hours of refresher training annually. Environmental resource training is provided annually to ensure field going personnel are aware of the unique resources in their areas. This discussed potential impacts of OHV use to natural resources (i.e. soil, water, sensitive species), and cultural resources of concern. Other trng provided includes 1st Aid and CPR, and ATV and motorcycle certification.

### Law Enforcement - Page 3

7. Is the proposed project in accordance with local or federal plans and the OHMVR Division Strategic Plan? (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No
8. LOCAL AGENCIES ONLY - Describe the Applicant's policies and/or agreements regarding enforcement on federal land:
9. COUNTIES ONLY - Describe how the OHV in-lieu of tax funds are being used and whether the use of these fees complements the Applicant's project:

### Law Enforcement - Page 4

10. APPLICANTS WHO MANAGE OHV RECREATION FACILITIES – Describe how your organization is meeting its operation and maintenance needs:
- The LPNF meets the operation and maintenance needs of our OHV facilities through a combination of forest, state, and partnership funding/contributions. Employees routinely visit trail head areas to service the bathrooms, remove trash, post information boards, repair damaged facilities, and collect photo documentation. Inspections are also made of the routes, including signs, barriers, fences, trail condition surveys, and GPS points collected for illegal route locations. Volunteers are significant contributors to the maintenance of routes and the other OHV facilities owned and operated by the Los Padres National Forest.
11. The Applicant agrees to enforce the registration of OHVs and the other provision of Division 16.5 commencing with Section 38000 of the vehicle code and to enforce other applicable laws regarding the operation of OHVs? (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No

## Project Cost Estimate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
<b>APPLICANT NAME :</b>	USFS - Los Padres NF - Patrol District		
<b>PROJECT TITLE :</b>	Law Enforcement (FINAL)	<b>PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :</b>	G09-02-28-L01
<b>PROJECT TYPE :</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION :</b>	<p>The OHV program on the Los Padres National Forest (LPNF) is spread over four districts: Mt. Pinos, Santa Lucia, Santa Barbara, and Ojai Ranger Districts. Areas of emphasis on the Mt Pinos Ranger District are in Ballinger Canyon, Piru Creek Crossing, Grade Valley, and the OHV routes that interface with the Hungry Valley State Vehicle Recreation Area at Interstate 5 in the Tejon Pass OHV area. On the Santa Lucia Ranger District the emphasis will be patrol of the Garcia OHV Trail, Pozo/La Panza, Rockfront, Buckhorn Ridge, Figueroa Mtn. and unauthorized areas in the West Cuesta and Huasna areas. Patrol emphasis on the Santa Barbara Ranger District is the Buckhorn/Camuesa and Divide Peak OHV areas as well as East and West Camino Cielo Roads where the potential occurrence of encroachment is high. OHV routes emphasized on the Ojai Ranger District are the Potrero Seco, Cherry Canyon, Nordoff Ridge, and Ortega Trail OHV routes.</p> <p>The OHV law enforcement program implements and seeks compliance from the public of state and federal laws and regulations related to OHV use on the forest including protection of natural resources, safety of the public, and compliance with laws such as noise limits, registration, wearing of safety gear, and not riding double. Frequency of patrols will enable the LPNF to have a visible presence on weekends and holidays (traditionally the high use times) in all OHV areas on the forest and enable intermittent coverage throughout the week at areas such as Piru Creek Crossing, Rockfront, Pozo/La Panza, and Ballinger Canyon.</p> <p>Forest Protection Officers (FPO) will make contacts with OHV visitors and provide information concerning OHV routes and legal riding areas and information on the impacts of off-route riding to the environment. Route maps and handouts on safe riding practices are provided to the public by patrol personnel and at all Ranger Stations. FPO and Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) patrols will issue citations where necessary to achieve compliance with OHV laws and regulations. OHV regulatory, directional, and informational signs, fences and barriers will be inspected and repaired on a regular basis.</p> <p>The Los Padres National Forest has had an extraordinary wildfire history based on drought, topography, unburned fuels, and the influence of the urban interface. As a southern California forest, the threat to adjacent communities and structures is high. OHV law enforcement staff continue to expend considerable time and resources to control unauthorized OHV intrusion into wildfire burn areas. The burn areas from wildfires during the past four years (2006 Day Fire 163,000 acres; 2007 Zaca Fire 240,000 acres; 2008 Gap Fire 9,500 acres; 2008 Tea Fire 2,000 acres, 2009 La Brea Fire 89,000 acres) as well as hundreds of miles of fire suppression dozer lines are located on or near designated OHV routes/concentrated use sites. These areas are subject to OHV encroachment and failure to control illegal access will lead to creation of multiple miles of unauthorized routes which will in turn be difficult and expensive to close and rehabilitate. While the majority of the accessible burn areas and dozer lines have been closed by forest orders and utilizing a combination of barrier systems such as width limiters, gates, and fencing there is an ongoing need to continue focused patrols in these areas to prevent unauthorized off route travel. The LPNF has already spent an estimated \$135,000 in fire supplemental funding to install gates, signs, and barriers. An additional \$50,000 has been spent in increased closure monitoring and patrol costs.</p> <p>Funding request will provide for 316 days of funding across the forest- basically the equivalent of 1.25 full time Forest Protection Officers (FPOs)- to be spread among current FPO staff on the LPNF in support of the OHV recreation program.</p>		

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010  
Agency: USFS - Los Padres NF - Patrol District  
Application: Law Enforcement (FINAL)

2/26/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>							
<b>Program Expenses</b>							
<b>1</b>	<b>Staff</b>						
	Law Enforcement Officers Notes : 5 LEO's contributing 10 days each for OHV Law Enforcement.	50.000	440.000	DAY	0.00	22,000.00	22,000.00
	Other-Forest Protection Officer (FPO) Notes : 12 Forest Protection Officers will be funded in part by grant. Works out to approximately 26 days per FPO	316.000	250.000	DAY	79,000.00	0.00	79,000.00
	<b>Total for Staff</b>				79,000.00	22,000.00	101,000.00
<b>2</b>	<b>Contracts</b>						
<b>3</b>	<b>Materials / Supplies</b>						
	Safety Equipment Notes : Including helmet, boots, gloves, etc.	1.000	1000.000	YR	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
<b>4</b>	<b>Equipment Use Expenses</b>						
	Other-MPRD Vehicle Support Notes : Includes fuel, mileage, maint of vehicles used for LE purposes including 4x4, motorcycle, atv, etc.	1.000	4000.000	YR	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
	Other-SLRD Vehicle Support Notes : Includes fuel, mileage, maint of vehicles used for LE purposes including 4x4, motorcycle, atv, etc.	1.000	4000.000	YR	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
	<b>Total for Equipment Use Expenses</b>				0.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
<b>5</b>	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>						
<b>6</b>	<b>Others</b>						
<b>7</b>	<b>Indirect Costs</b>						

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010  
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Application: Law Enforcement (FINAL)

2/26/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
Total Program Expenses					79,000.00	31,000.00	110,000.00
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					79,000.00	31,000.00	110,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					<b>79,000.00</b>	<b>31,000.00</b>	<b>110,000.00</b>

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010  
 Agency: USFS - Los Padres NF - Patrol District  
 Application: Law Enforcement (FINAL)

2/26/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Program Expenses</b>					
1	Staff	79,000.00	22,000.00	101,000.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Indirect Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		79,000.00	31,000.00	110,000.00	
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>		79,000.00	31,000.00	110,000.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>79,000.00</b>	<b>31,000.00</b>	<b>110,000.00</b>	



## Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS)

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### ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

#### ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

#### ITEM 2

- b. Does the proposed Project include a request for funding for CEQA and/or NEPA document preparation prior to implementing the remaining Project Deliverables (i.e., is it a two-phased Project pursuant to Section 4970.06.1(b)) (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

### ITEM 3 - Project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378

- c. ITEM 3 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)
- d. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No
- e. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 4 – 10

### ITEM 4 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

### ITEM 5 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

### ITEM 6 - Soil Impacts

### ITEM 7 - Damage to Scenic Resources

### ITEM 8 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

### ITEM 9 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Discuss the potential for the proposed Project to have any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources.

### ITEM 10 - Indirect Significant Impacts

**CEQA/NEPA Attachment**

Attachments:

[NEPA Categorical Exclusion Document](#)